

(7) The form of the tail-feathers is different in the two species, these being much broader and more obtusely rounded at the tips in *I. pulchricollis*. (8) In *I. pectoralis* all the greater quills have very distinct and regular rufous spots or bars on their inner webs; in *I. pulchricollis* these spots are confined to the first quill; in the others the inner web is of a nearly uniform light rufous on its basal half, the bars being almost obsolete. (9) *I. pulchricollis* is altogether the larger bird.

There is no difference in the colour of the sexes of this species.

Dr. Emin Bey discovered this interesting bird in one of his excursions east of the Bar-el-Djebel. "All round Babira," he writes, "there is much cultivated ground, interspersed with groups of trees and fine park-like scenery. Here it was that this Wryneck, a pair of which I send, was observed early in the morning searching for ants. The birds are rather clumsy in their movements, awkwardly hopping about. They fly short distances only, the flight being undulatory. The note of the male is a repeated *dii-i*, which is answered by the female. They keep much on the ground. In rising they utter a sharp *zick*. Rare."

#### IV.—*Further Contributions to the Ornithology of Japan.*

By HENRY SEEBOHM.

I AM indebted to Capt. Blakiston for an opportunity of examining a case of birds from Japan containing some examples of very great interest. The order in which the species are placed in the subjoined notes upon this collection is that adopted by Messrs. Blakiston and Pryer in their article on the birds of Japan (*Ibis*, 1878, p. 209).

##### BRACHYRHAMPUS MARMORATUS.

A skin sent (No. 1269), labelled "*♂*, Hakodadi, May," appears to belong to this species. Its short tarsus, much shorter than the middle toe, and blackish plumage, marbled

with buffish chestnut on the upper parts and with white on the underparts, distinguish it from its allies. It is, however, very large, as the following comparison of measurements shows, and may possibly prove to belong to a new species:—

|                              | Wing. | Tail. | Culmen. | Tarsus. | Mid. toe<br>and claw. |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| Hakodadi . . . . .           | 5·75  | 1·7   | 1·5     | ·8      | 1·36                  |
| <i>B. marmoratus</i> (Coues) | 5·00  | 1·5   | 1·35    | ·7      | 1·2                   |

#### BRACHYRHAMPUS WRANGELI.

An example in the Swinhoe collection labelled “No. 1357, Hakodadi, ♀, May,” was identified by Swinhoe (Ibis, 1875, p. 458) with *B. kittlitzi* of Brandt. It measures—wing 5·25, tail 1·4, culmen 1·3, tarsus ·7, middle toe and claw 1·3 inch. The upper parts are grey, most of the feathers tipped with pale grey, but many of them are dark brown with rufous tips. The underparts are very white, most of the feathers, especially on the breast and flanks, have dark brown tips. The under wing-coverts are nearly white. This specimen cannot be the adult of any of the species enumerated by Coues, since both the species mentioned by him as having short tarsi are said to have the under wing-coverts dusky brown.

A skin sent, labelled “No. 1918, Hakodadi, ♀, Nov.,” appears to be almost adult. The measurements agree with those of the last-mentioned skin, except that the culmen measures 1·4. The upper parts are nearly uniform greyish brown, with much white on the scapulars. The underparts are white, except the flanks and axillaries, which are grey, and the inner wing-coverts, which are mottled grey and white. Probably the next moult would have brought it to the plumage described as *B. wrangeli*.

#### SIMORHYNCHUS PYGMÆUS.

The skin sent from Hakodadi (No. 3255) agrees fairly well with Coues's *S. microceros*, and another (No. 2291) from the same locality with the *S. pusillus* of the same author. Probably, as Dr. Coues suggests, the latter is the young of the former, in which case he is of opinion that Gmelin's name ought to be used.

## COLYMBUS ADAMSI.

The skin sent (No. 3256) is an immature example of this species from Hakodadi, with a nearly white bill. A fine adult male was lately to be seen in the Fisheries Exhibition, collected by Baron Nordenskiöld in the Arctic Ocean.

## ANSER CYGNOIDES.

The skin sent (No. 3247) from Yokohama is correctly identified.

## ANSER HYPERBOREUS.

The skin sent (No. 3246) from Yokohama is correctly identified, the wing measuring  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

## BERNICLA BRENTA.

The skin sent (No. 3239) from Yokohama belongs to the form of the Brent Goose (var. *nigricans*) with the black of the breast extending to the belly, and the white on the neck almost in a complete ring.

## STERNA SINENSIS.

The skin sent (No. 3241) from Yokohama belongs to this species, which is new to Japan. The shafts of the primaries are white.

## LARUS BOREALIS.

The skin sent (No. 2787) from the Kurile Islands is an example of the Arctic Herring-Gull, originally described \* by Brandt from Siberia, and afterwards by Reinhardt from Greenland.

## LARUS TRIDACTYLUS.

The skin sent (No. 2742) from the Kurile Islands is correctly identified.

## STERCORARIUS CREPIDATUS.

The skin sent (No. 2696) from the Kurile Islands belongs to this species.

## STERCORARIUS POMATORHINUS.

The skin sent (No. 1637) from Tokio Bay is an immature example of this species, which is new to Japan.

\* [Where is this original description published?—EDD.]

*ATTAGEN MINOR.*

The skin sent (No. 2751) from Hakodadi is correctly identified, the length of wing being 21 inches.

*PROCELLARIA LEUCORRHOA.*

The skin sent (No. 2748) from Yezo is correctly identified.

*PROCELLARIA FURCATA.*

The skin sent (No. 1819) from the Kurile Islands is correctly identified.

*PUFFINUS GRISEUS.*

The skin sent (No. 2695) from the Kurile Islands belongs to this species.

*TEREKIA CINEREA.*

The skin sent (No. 2793) from Yokohama is correctly identified.

*TRINGA PLATYRHYNCHA.*

The skin sent (No. 1486) from Hakodadi is correctly identified. Dresser is, I believe, in error in supposing that the East-Siberian bird differs from that of Europe.

*MACHETES PUGNAX.*

The skin sent (No. 1869) from Hakodadi is correctly identified.

*PHALAROPUS FULICARIUS.*

The skin sent (No. 2700) from the Kurile Islands is correctly identified.

*SCOLOPAX NILSONI.*

The skin sent (No. 1503) from Hakodadi may belong to this species, which has previously been recorded from Japan.

*SCOLOPAX GRISEA.*

The skin sent (No. 1707) from East Yezo is that of a female in first autumn plumage of this species. A second example was obtained at Yokohama in March, and from the description is an adult in winter plumage. This American species is an addition to the birds of Japan. It has occurred in North-east Siberia (Tacz. Journ. Orn. 1873, p. 112), and is in-

cluded in the list of British birds, more than a dozen examples having been obtained in this country.

TRINGA SUBMINUTA.

TRINGA RUFICOLLIS.

Both these species pass along the coasts of China and Japan in spring and autumn, but I have not seen any examples of *T. minuta* from either of these countries. These three species are often confused together. *T. subminuta* may always be distinguished by its large feet. *T. ruficollis* in spring plumage may always be known by its chestnut throat and breast, and in winter plumage by the absence of chestnut margins to the two centre tail-feathers.

TRINGA CANUTUS.

The skin sent (No. 2794) from Yokohama is correctly identified.

NUMENIUS LINEATUS.

NUMENIUS CYANOPUS.

NUMENIUS VARIEGATUS.

NUMENIUS MINUTUS.

There are two Curlews and two Whimbrels in Japan. *N. lineatus* is the Eastern form of our Curlew, from which it is probably only subspecifically distinct. It differs from our bird in having the rump and axillaries pure white, characters which are very rarely met with, and possibly never united in European birds. It has also a longer bill, as the following measurements, in inches, of the culmen will show:—

|                          | Females.                         | Males.                           |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>N. lineatus</i> ..... | 8 to $6\frac{1}{2}$              | 6 to $5\frac{1}{2}$              |
| <i>N. arquatus</i> ..... | $6\frac{3}{4}$ to $5\frac{3}{4}$ | $5\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{3}{4}$ |

*N. cyanopus* (*N. australis* and *N. rufescens* of Gould, and *N. major* of Temminck and Schlegel) is of about the same size, but differs from both forms of the Common Curlew in having the rump of the same colour as the back and upper tail-coverts. It varies enormously in the length of the beak, the culmen of males varying from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and of females from  $7\frac{3}{4}$  to  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

*N. variegatus*, Scopoli (ex Sonnerat ; *N. uropygialis* of Gould), is the Eastern form of our Whimbrel, and doubtfully distinct from it, having the rump streaked instead of white.

*N. minutus* is a miniature *N. cyanopus*, the wing measuring only  $7\frac{1}{2}$  instead of 12 inches in length.

IBIS PROPINQUA.

The skin sent (No. 1829) from Yedo is correctly identified.

BUBULCUS COROMANDUS.

The skin sent (No. 3215) from Tokio is correctly identified.

BUTORIDES MACRORHYNCHUS.

The skin sent (No. 2811) from Nagasaki is correctly identified. It seems doubtful if this species is distinct from *B. javanicus*.

ARDEOLA PRASINOSCELES.

The skin sent (No. 2677) from Hakodadi belongs to this species, which has not hitherto been recorded from Japan. It was described by Swinhoe from South China, but seems to be doubtfully distinct from *A. leucoptera*.

RALLUS BAILLONI.

The skin sent (No. 2717) from Yokohama is Baillon's Crake. It does not differ in size from European examples.

TETRAO BONASIA.

The skin sent (No. 3242) from Hakodadi is a typical Hazel-Grouse, neither the short-tailed pale Siberian form nor the rufous South-European form.

LAGOPUS MUTUS.

The skin sent (No. 3243), from an elevation of 9250 feet above the level of the sea, about a hundred miles to the north-west of Yokohama, on the main island of Japan (not from Northern Japan, as erroneously stated by Saunders, Yarr. Brit. B. iii. p. 86), appears to belong to the Common Ptarmigan.

TURTUR ORIENTALIS.

The skin sent (No. 2367) from Yezo belongs to this species,



which has already been recorded from Japan by Whitely (Ibis, 1867, p. 204) as *T. rupicola*, and by Swinhoe (Ibis, 1874, p. 162) as *T. gelastes*.

CUCULUS HIMALAYANUS.

The skins sent (Nos. 2710, 2711) from Fujisan are the *C. himalayanus* of Vigors apud Jerdon. The wings measure 7·9 inches.

CUCULUS HYPERYTHRUS.

The skin sent (No. 2709) from Fujisan belongs to this species. It is the *Hierococcyx fugax* of Horsfield apud Blakiston and Pryer. It appears to me that the adult of this species is unknown. All the skins I have seen have longitudinal streaks on the underparts, such as are characteristic of immature birds of the *Hierococcyx* group of Cuckoos, to which it evidently belongs.

PICUS MINOR.

Three skins sent from Yezo are of typical *P. minor*, much darker on the underparts, and much more streaked, especially on the breast and flanks, than *P. minor* var. *pipra*, which ranges from Archangel to Kamtschatka. Two examples in my collection from the island of Saghalien, and one from the Altai Mountains, are paler underneath, but are streaked on the breast and flanks. A British example only differs from these skins from Yezo in having the flanks barred instead of streaked, a feature characteristic of *P. minor* var. *danfordi* from Asia Minor.

UPUPA EPOPS.

The skin sent (No. 2125), caught at sea off the south-east coast of Yezo, belongs to the typical form of the Hoopoe.

ZOSTEROPS JAPONICA.

A skin (No. 3250) bought from a native bird-dealer, and said to have been caught in the interior of the main island, is very large. It measures—wing 2·5 inches, tail 1·8, culmen ·77, tarsus ·76. The rufous on the breast and flanks is somewhat paler than usual.

## CERTHIA FAMILIARIS.

The skin sent (No. 3182) from Sapporo is of the arctic or pale form known as var. *scandulaca*.

## LANIUS MAGNIROSTRIS.

The skin sent from Fujisan, near Yokohama, belongs to this species, which is new to Japan.

## LANIUS MAJOR.

The skin sent (No. 1097) from Hakodadi belongs to this species, which is also new to Japan.

## BUTALIS SIBIRICA.

The skin sent (No. 2730) from Fujisan belongs to this species, which is also an addition to the fauna of Japan.

## PARUS ATER.

Two females from Yezo are indistinguishable from European skins; but a male (No. 3178) from the same locality has a decided crest, and must be referred to var. *pekinensis*.

## PARUS PALUSTRIS.

Two examples (Nos. 3131, 3132) from Yezo belong to the form known as var. *brevirostris*, as does also an example from the Kurile Islands (No. 2799).

## ACREDULA ROSEA.

The skin sent (No. 2732) from Yokohama is indistinguishable from European examples, and can hardly claim to be called var. *trivirgata*.

## ÆGITHALUS CONSOBRINUS.

A second skin of a male (No. 2543) and one of a female (No. 2544) from Nagasaki, in the south island of Japan, appears to prove that this species, of which the type described by Swinhoe from Central China is in my collection, is a good one, differing from *Æ. pendulinus* in having no chestnut on the breast, a darker head, and less chestnut on the back.

## ACCENTOR RUBIDUS.

The skin sent (No. 2227) from Tokio, at no great distance from Yokohama, agrees with Temminck and Schlegel's figure in having no streaks on the flanks. Probably the *Accentor*



*rubidus* var. *fervidus* (Sharpe, Cat. B. B. M. vii. p. 653), with streaked flanks, is confined to the north island of Japan.

ACCENTOR NIPALENSIS.

The skin sent (No. 2731) from Fujisan, not far from Yokohama, agrees with the remains of the type of *A. erythropygius* in the Swinhoe collection. This bird has recently been made (Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. vii. p. 663) a subspecies of *A. alpinus*; but I cannot find that it differs in any particular from *A. nipalensis*.

ANTHUS LUDOVICIANUS.

Mr. Blakiston has sent a fine series of fifteen examples of *A. japonicus*, all of which are absolutely identical with American birds. One example is almost an exact duplicate of the bird figured in Swainson and Richardson's 'Fauna Boreali-Americana' (see Seebohm, Hist. Brit. B. ii. p. 248).

MOTACILLA BLAKISTONI, Seeb. Ibis, 1882, p. 91\*.

I have now a fine series of this excellent species of both sexes in summer and winter plumage, both adult and young. They all have more white on the basal half of the primaries, especially the three first, than can be found in any of the allied species. The male has a black back in summer, but females in both seasons and males in winter have the back grey mottled with black. The ear-coverts, cheeks, and sides of the neck are always white, and in adults the shoulders are black and the secondaries white, or nearly so. The throat is black in summer and white in winter, but the breast is always black.

MOTACILLA JAPONICA.

This species may be recognized in both sexes, at both seasons and at all ages, by its stout bill and by its never having the cheeks and ear-coverts white; they are black in adults and grey in the young. The only white on the head is the chin, forehead, and eye-stripe. In this species the back, throat, and breast of the male are always black, and of the female always dark grey. As in the preceding

\* [See Ridgway, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. vi. p. 144.—EDD.]

species, the shoulders are black and the secondaries white, but the first three primaries are only white on the outside half of the basal half of the inner web.

MOTACILLA AMURENSIS.

This species appears also to be perfectly distinct from its allies, and may be always distinguished from the preceding two species by its grey shoulders and secondaries. In the distribution of the white on the three first primaries it agrees with *M. japonica*. The male in summer plumage has a black back, suffused with grey on the rump, but the male in winter and the female in summer have grey backs. The throat is black in summer and white in winter, but the breast is always black. The only species with which this bird is likely to be confused is *M. ocularis*. From this, however, it is perfectly distinct, with an entirely different geographical range. *M. amurensis* bears the same relation to *M. ocularis* that *M. yarrelli* does to *M. alba*, and is in every respect as distinct. The males can only be confounded in winter plumage, but the lighter slate-grey, especially on the rump, of *M. ocularis* is a sufficient distinction. The latter species is not found in Japan.

MOTACILLA SULPHUREA.

A series of Japanese examples vary in length of tail from 3·6 to 3·7 inches, and are therefore of the var. *melanope*.

MOTACILLA FLAVA.

A skin from Canton and another (No. 2781) from the Kurile Islands have the head dark olive-green, the eye-stripe yellow, and the ear-coverts dark brown, and are therefore of var. *taivanus*. An example from Hongkong collected by Jouy also belongs to this form.

CETTIA CANTANS.

CETTIA CANTILLANS.

Carefully sexed examples of these two species, collected by Mr. P. T. Jouy, of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, about the centre of the main island of Japan, seem to prove that I was wrong in uniting them. It is curious that two

species only differing in size should inhabit the same district ; but they appear to vary in length of wing, as under—

|                                | Males.      | Females.     |
|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>C. cantans</i> . . . . .    | 2·65 to 2·5 | 2·55 to 2·45 |
| <i>C. cantillans</i> . . . . . | 2·2 to 2·15 | 2·15 to 2·05 |

#### CISTICOLA CISTICOLA.

There seems to be no doubt that the so-called *C. brunneiceps* is the summer plumage of the European Fantailed Warbler.

#### MEGALURUS PRYERI, NOV. sp.

This is a most interesting addition to the fauna of Japan. The skin sent (No. P 5) was shot in Tokio, not very far from Yokohama. Its nearest ally is *M. gramineus* from Australia, but it differs from that species in having a shorter and more rufous tail, in having buff instead of white edges to the innermost secondaries, and in having no spots on the throat, breast, or under tail-coverts.

The general colour of the upper parts is chestnut-buff, each feather, except those of the forehead and rump, having an almost black centre, especially conspicuous on the back and innermost secondaries. The quills and tail-feathers are buffish brown, the latter with dark shaft-lines. The underparts are chestnut-buff, shading into pale buff on the centre of the throat and belly, and on the axillaries and under wing-coverts. Bill black above, pale beneath. Legs, feet, and claws pale. The bill is Phylloscopine, and the rictal bristles very small. The second primary is about equal to the ninth, and about twice as long as the first. The tail, of twelve feathers, is Locustelline, and has no trace of black subterminal spots. Length of wing 2·32, tail 2·32, tarsus ·8, culmen ·5 inch.

This bird (and its allies) might be placed in the genus *Luscinola*. It is structurally the same as *L. thoracica*, but has the pattern of colour of *Megalurus*, and is so exactly intermediate between the two genera as to make it doubtful if they can be separated.

#### TROGLODYTES PARVULUS.

Three Wrens from the Yokohama district measure in length

of wing from 2·1 to 1·85 inch, and are indistinguishable from European examples, except that the underparts are slightly darker and more rufous. The smaller ones are absolutely indistinguishable from examples from Vancouver's Island. An example from Hakodadi measures 2·1 inches in length of wing, and is slightly paler on the underparts. An example from the Kurile Islands is still paler underneath, but not quite so pale as European examples: it measures 2·15 inches in length of wing, and the culmen ·66 inch. Nothing can be more misleading than to dignify these climatic races with the rank of species. The Japanese Wren is known as *T. parvulus* var. *fumigatus*; but to distinguish it even as a variety from *T. alascensis* and *T. pacificus* can only be regarded as hair-splitting, the extremes in a series of any one variety overlapping the extremes of the nearest allied varieties.

#### MERULA CARDIS.

Among the examples sent of this species is one (No. 724) from Hakodadi of the young in first plumage, which was hitherto unknown. The general colour is brown, but most of the feathers of the upper parts have chestnut shaft-streaks and black terminal bands. The throat and upper breast are spotted like the lower breast and flanks. Axillaries chestnut.

#### MERULA CHRYSOLAUS.

An example (No. 723) from Hakodadi of young in first plumage is new. The general colour resembles that of the adult, but most of the feathers of the upper parts have chestnut shaft-streaks and black terminal bands, and on the breast and flanks are arrow-shaped black spots. Axillaries grey.

#### ALAUDA ARVENSIS.

The Sky-Larks of Japan differ in size as much as ours do, the wing varying in length from 4·9 to 3·9 inches. They are slightly more rufous than our birds, and might be called var. *japonica* by ornithologists anxious to split hairs. A smaller race, var. *cælivox*, also occurs in Japan, having the wing varying from 3·7 to 3·2 inches.

## EMBERIZA YESSOENSIS.

Three examples from Yezo prove the distinctness of this species, which was figured in 'The Ibis' for 1879, pl. i.

## SYRNIUM URALENSE.

The skin sent (No. 3163) from Yezo is sexed a female, and dated October, but is no more rufous than examples from Krasnoyarsk (see Ibis, 1879, p. 180).

BUBO BLAKISTONI, Seebohm, nov. sp. P. Z. S. Nov. 20th, 1883.

It seems probable that the name of *B. maximus* must be erased from the list of Japan birds. The Owl which has hitherto done duty for this species in Japanese collections turns out to be almost generically distinct. The skin is dated Hakodadi, December.

General colour of the upper parts brown, marbled with buff, which takes the form of transverse bars on the wings and tail; all the small feathers with broad dark-brown shaft-streaks. Underparts similar, but the shaft-streaks narrower. Chin and upper throat white, with very narrow shaft-streaks. Ear-tufts well developed. Tarsus feathered, but toes entirely bare. Length of wing 22 inches, tail 11, tarsus 3·8, culmen 2·5.

This bird is probably the largest known species of Owl, and forms a connecting link between the genera *Bubo* and *Ketupa*. It is perhaps nearest to *B. coromandus*, but is much larger, and is without any trace of feathers on the feet.

## SCOPS STICTONOTUS.

## SCOPS JAPONICUS.

A series from Hakodadi of the grey form to the rufous form presents almost every intermediate stage, and shows that these supposed species are only phases of plumage of a variable species, probably climatic varieties.

## SCOPS SEMITORQUES.

Males appear to measure 6 inches in length of wing and females 7 inches.



AQUILA CHRYSÆTUS.

The skin sent (No. P 7) from Yokohama is a young bird of this species.

AQUILA LAGOPUS.

The skins sent (Nos. 2666 and 1371) from Hakodadi are Rough-legged Buzzard Eagles.

CIRCUS SPILONOTUS.

The skin sent (No. 1491) from Hakodadi appears to be a young male of this species. The thighs are white streaked with chestnut; the primary-coverts and the secondaries are very grey; and there are obscure bars on all the tail-feathers, except the two centre ones. Another skin (P 8) from the main island appears to be a female in first plumage. The thighs are dark chestnut-brown, but all the tail-feathers are barred.

CIRCUS ÆRUGINOSUS.

Three examples from the main island of Japan are Common Marsh-Harriers, with almost white heads, unbarred tails, and dark chestnut thighs.

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V.—Notes on three Guatemalan Birds.

By ROBERT RIDGWAY.

HAVING, through the kindness of Mr. Salvin, had the opportunity of examining the type specimens of the following species, it affords me much pleasure to offer a few remarks concerning them, my apology for doing so being that they possess peculiar interest to me on account of their relationship, real or supposed, to certain North-American forms with which I have been enabled to make a careful comparison of them.

1. *CHRY SOMITRIS ATRICEPS*, Salvin, P. Z. S. May 1863, p. 190; Ibis, 1866, p. 194.

This very distinct species is apparently most nearly related to *C. spinescens*, Bp., of New Granada. The coloration is very similar, but the olive-green tips to the greater wing-coverts and margins of the tertials are much broader, and the